

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia REPORT NO. 25X1A

TOPIC 1. Parachute Training Center in Zakupy
2. Hradcany Airfield

EVALUATION 25X1A PLACE OBTAINED 25X1A

DATE OF CONTENT 25X1A

DATE OBTAINED 4 June 1951 DATE PREPARED 4 June 1951

REFERENCES 25X1A

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS An evaluation of this report is requested from Army.

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1. The parachute training center in Zakupy (O 51/F 85) was located at the edge of a woods northeast of the town. It consisted of four groups of 10 wooden cantonment buildings each. More of these buildings were located in the woods. Four temporary buildings were about 50 meters east of Zakupy-Nove Zakupy (O 51/F 85) highway. They housed a detachment of the auxiliary company, a kitchen, a motion picture theater, and a PX in addition to officers' billets. * On top of Hill 465 was a wooden or iron tower 70 meters high which was used for parachuting.
2. Meals for approximately 1,700 men were prepared in the kitchen. The parachutists wore a brownish uniform, a red beret and Canadian-type shoes with rubber soles. Some carried knives. The parachutists were given type L rations. Their first breakfast consisted of milk and cake; the second breakfast of tea, bread and butter; lunch of 200 grams of meat and dumplings; supper of eggs, milk, coffee, cereals, and cake. The mess officer was Senior Lieutenant Delfier.
3. The airfield used by the parachutists stationed in Zakupy was located east of Hradcany (O 51/F 94). Four wooden buildings occupied by ground personnel wearing blue and khaki uniforms were seen at the edge of the field.
4. The Hradcany airfield was occupied by about 35 Dakota and Aero-type planes. Individual and group parachuting by four to six men was observed. From 28 to 30 men would parachute from one plane. According to ground personnel, parachuting was also practiced over the Machovo Lake near Doksy (O 51/F 84). The parachutists were picked up by motor boats. According to 25X1A

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parachutists were also quartered in Straz pod Ralskem (O 51/F 95). ** They used another field.

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* ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Comment. The report confirms the presence of a parachute unit in Zakupy up to May 1950. From the data given, a parachute battalion is believed to be stationed there. Zakupy is located in an area in which Czechoslovakian parachute and airborne units are stationed. Such units were located in Mimon, Straz pod Ralskem, and Doksy. They are believed to belong to the army.

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** ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Comment. The presence of a parachute battalion in Straz pod Ralskem was previously known. It appears improbable that it should use another airfield. The existence of a second airfield in this area is unknown.

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